



# News Release

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## ***Salmonella* update: state health urges residents to check all peanut products**

*Nationwide voluntary recall of peanut products continues to expand*

**OLYMPIA** — State health officials say consumers should postpone eating peanut products until they're sure those products aren't part of a major recall due to a national salmonellosis outbreak. This advice does not include national brands of jarred peanut butter sold in grocery stores.

The state Department of Health is concerned some Washington residents aren't aware of how broad the recall has become and urges them to check the product recall list thoroughly. A list of [affected products sold in Washington](http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/food/salmonellaoutbreak.html) (www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/food/salmonellaoutbreak.html) is available online.

In Washington, 15 people have been diagnosed with illness caused by *Salmonella* Typhimurium among more than 500 cases nationwide. The two most recent cases occurred in children who became ill in mid-January; the other cases were in November and December.

Salmonellosis is the illness caused by the many strains of *Salmonella* bacteria. Symptoms include severe diarrhea, bloody diarrhea, fever, chills, abdominal discomfort, and occasionally vomiting. The symptoms generally appear one to three days after exposure. Serious infections can occur, particularly in the very young or elderly. Most people recover on their own without medication, but some severe cases require IV-fluids to prevent dehydration.

The far-reaching recall has expanded daily and now covers hundreds of products. State health is working with local health partners and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to make sure recalled products are removed from sale.

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Anyone who's unsure if a specific peanut-product has been recalled should not eat it or feed it to family or pets until they get more information about the product. The FDA has an online list of [all products affected by the recall](http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/peanutbutterrecall/index.cfm) (www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/peanutbutterrecall/index.cfm).

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Visit the Washington Department of Health Web site at <http://www.doh.wa.gov> for *a healthy dose of information*.